

Vol. 64 No. 38 September 20, 1983
Transactions, American Geophysical Union

EOS

EOS, Transactions, American Geophysical Union

Vol. 64, No. 38, Pages 561-568

September 20, 1983

AGU BOOKSHELF

Profiles of Orogenic Belts (1983). F.M. Delany and N. Haxel (Eds.). Illustrations, color plates, map, hardbound, \$20 pp. \$36.

This volume offers an overview study of the relationships among the different types of orogenic processes—tectonic, magmatic and metamorphic—on the continents. The list of extensive references following each review are of value to all the readers.

Geodynamics: Atmospheric Chemistry (1982). D.R. Schryer (Ed.). Illustrations, hardbound, 280 pp. \$27.

This volume brings together for the first time an exchange of ideas, information, and methodologies from many fields directly and indirectly related to the science of heterogeneous atmospheric chemistry. The papers include reviews of the various fields covered and presentations of new research.

Geodynamics of the Western Pacific—Indonesian Region (1983). T. Hilde and S. Uyeda (Eds.). Illustrations, color plates, hardbound, 466 pp. \$38.

The contributions to this volume are divided into General Studies and Regional Studies. The first section examines the dynamic processes as well as the systematic geological and geophysical relationships found in the region as a whole. The second section focuses on specific areas and features of the Western Pacific.

The Scientist and Engineer in Court (1983). M.D. Bradley. Softbound, 111 pp. \$14.

To be an expert witness the scientist or engineer must have a working knowledge of the judicial process and courtroom procedures. This volume offers a complete introduction to the role of an expert witness in litigation proceedings.

Coastal Upwelling (1981). F.A. Richards (Ed.). Illustrations, hardbound, 329 pp. \$29.

The 60 multidisciplinary papers presented in this volume examine the physical, chemical, biological, and environmental factors that influence the upwelling ecosystem.

Earthquake Prediction: An International Review (1981). D.W. Simpson and P.G. Richards (Eds.). Illustrations, color plates, hardbound, 688 pp. \$38.

Earthquake prediction provides a sharp focal point for combining classical methods of geology with technological and analytical techniques. This volume contains 51 papers, representing international scientific research. An overview of large earthquakes is presented, including case histories of recent events in China, Japan, Mexico, the USSR, and the USA.

Geodynamics of the Eastern Pacific Region, Caribbean and Scotia Arcs (1983). R. Cabre, S.J. (Ed.). Illustrations, hardbound, 176 pp. \$24.

Geodynamic phenomena in this region is of particular interest. Small plates have become detached from the large Pacific plate, yet have maintained a state of interaction with the Caribbean and North American blocks. The Scotia Arc reproduces some of the processes through which the Caribbean has reached its present state of geologic complexity.

Urban Stormwater Hydrology (1982). D.F. Kibler (Ed.). Illustrations, softbound, 280 pp. \$18.

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The Impact of VLBI and GPS on Geodesy

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Two new technologies, Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI) and the Global Positioning System (GPS), will provide the means for achieving the perennial goal of geodesists—a unified, worldwide geodetic control network tied to an inertial reference system. VLBI will replace optical methods for determining both polar position and rotation rate, with accuracies an order of magnitude better and with results available a week or less after observations. GPS will permit rapid, economical point positioning with accuracies of a few centimeters over distances of 100 km or more. The potential of these new systems will generate new applications for geodesy and require a reevaluation of the role of geodesy.

Introduction

By today's standards, the establishment of geodetic control networks over the last few centuries has been agonizingly slow. This is so in part because of the relatively meager resources devoted to this purpose; but partly because of the difficulty of achieving the goal of a three-dimensional, inertial, global reference system. Considering the obstacles that geodesists have had to face, this goal was considered by many to be virtually impossible. However, technological developments over the last generation have changed the skepticism to a growing confidence that we can eventually reach this goal.

The developments largely responsible for this new confidence are Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI) and the Navigation Satellite Timing and Ranging Global Positioning System (GPS). With the launching of artificial satellites in 1957, geodesy entered a new era. Satellites provided both a need for improved geodesy and the means for satisfying the need. Accurate orbit predictions required more accurate geodetic coordinates of tracking stations in a common reference system and a more accurate description of the earth's gravity field. Upgraded position coordinates were also needed for evaluation and calibration of satellite tracking instruments (National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 1977).

Obstacles and Inadequacies of Geodesy

In order to fully appreciate the expected impact of VLBI and GPS on geodesy, one must be at least superficially familiar with the problems that have faced geodesists and the shortcomings of the methods and instruments that were available to solve them. A short review is provided for this purpose.

Pre-Satellite Geodesy

Ever since the ancient Greeks first took an interest in the size and shape of the earth, investigators have been attempting to determine the earth's dimensions and the locations of features on its surface. During most of this time, work has proceeded under the baneful impact of confinement to the earth's surface. Because direct measurements of bearing and distance could be made only between points which were intervisible, directly connected points could be no further away than the horizon. To measure longer distances and determine the relative positions of widely separated points, chains and networks of intermediate points, each one visible from its immediate neighbors, were established and linked together by measurements.

This procedure worked reasonably well for establishing control point networks across land masses. New points were added and tied to existing points until the network covered the entire area of interest. The inability to see or measure further than the horizon, however, resulted in nonuniform coverage and network voids because large bodies of water and inaccessible land areas could not be bridged by linked control points. For the same reason, continental and island networks could not be tied together by direct measurement to form a continuous network.

In order to overcome this obstacle, geodesists resorted to indirect connections using astronomical observations. Astronomical determinations of latitude and longitude at widely separated points provided some information on their relative positions, but a lack of detailed knowledge of values of gravity severely limited the accuracy that could be obtained.

The introduction of airborne distance measuring devices was a major step in extending the range of measurements. Most such devices, including those that are currently in use, were designed for navigation, not for geodesy. Geodesists adopted systems like SHORAN and HIRAN to measure distances from known to unknown stations. Large trilateration networks were formed to connect chains of islands separated by hundreds of kilometers, and existing continental networks were

extended into previously unsurveyed areas. Like astronomical observations, however, accuracies were limited by an inability to fully account and correct for all disturbing influences. In addition, observation distances were limited by aircraft altitudes.

This inability to bridge oceans with acceptably accurate measurements effectively blocked the establishment of global geodetic networks. Networks covering contiguous territories were established to accuracies ranging from 2 to 10 m, but accuracies of ties across oceans were no better than 100 to 200 m, and there were very few of these. As a result, independent, isolated networks and reference datums were the norm. Prior to the launching of artificial satellites, there were 19 datums which controlled areas of 200,000 km² or more, and well over 100 minor or provisional datums.

Satellite Geodesy

There followed a period of intense activity to promote and exploit the new space technology, and geodesy played the roles of both recipient and contributor. The possibilities for intercontinental observations provided by satellites were so numerous and promising that tracking and observing systems of almost every conceivable type proliferated. Optical systems observed directions; radar and laser systems measured ranges; Doppler systems measured range rates. In addition to the variety of observing techniques, the procedures for obtaining geodetic information varied. A purely geometric analysis could be carried out by simultaneous observations from two or more stations, yielding the positions of the observing stations relative to each other. A more comprehensive analysis could be performed by determining the satellite's orbit, so that information on the earth's gravitational field and geocentric station positions could be obtained as well.

The production of satellites and satellite tracking systems, many of which were designed for specific purposes only indirectly related to geodetic needs, generated enormous amounts of data which enabled geodesists to take giant steps toward their goal of truly global geodesy. The accuracy of connections between the major datums improved steadily from the 100 to 200 m of the pre-satellite era to the 2 to 10 m of today. A global geoid covering the previously unsurveyed oceans and remote continental areas was quickly established and has undergone continuing refinement since. The earth's shape and dimensions and the relationship between mass-centered and best-fitting ellipsoid coordinate systems have become known to an accuracy of almost 1 m.

Current Technologies

Geodesists today use three types of surveying techniques for geodetic control-network point positioning. The first is traditional terrestrial surveying using line-of-sight direction and distance measurements; the second is inertial surveying; and the third is Doppler satellite surveying (Chazanowski et al., 1983).

Traditional surveying, with theodolites and geodimeters, has virtually reached its limits of accuracy, economy, and efficiency. The methods produce relative positioning accuracies of one part in 10⁵ of interstation distances over distances ranging up to 30 km, which is generally adequate for local needs. As is well known, however, traditional methods are labor intensive and slow, and unfavorable error propagation seriously degrades accuracies over longer distances. Its most serious limitation is the requirement for station intervisibility.

Inertial surveying methods are much faster than the traditional methods and have the added advantage that stations need not be intervisible. Accuracy is in the 20 to 40 cm range over distances of 5 to 100 km. An adverse consideration is the relatively large bulk and cost of the equipment.

Doppler surveying techniques, using the TRANSIT navigation satellites, produce 20 to 30 cm accuracies over distances of 5 to 1000 km. The equipment is relatively compact and can be backpacked. Like inertial surveying, stations need not be intervisible, but, unlike inertial methods, observing periods average about 2 days to acquire an adequate number of satellite passes.

Geodesy requires that the earth's orientation and rotation rate with respect to a fixed reference system be periodically observed. Rotation rate, which is needed for determining time, hence longitude, is currently obtained from regular stellar observations made from as many as 50 observatories positioned around the earth. The program is operated by the Bureau International de l'Heure (BIH) in Paris.

There are two serious deficiencies in the current methods. First, the methods use optical telescopes for observing stars. The vagaries of the stars' proper motions and the effects of atmospheric refraction on optical observations limit the obtainable accuracies. Second, the values are not available until well after the observing period; we need to determine earth rotation and polar motion to accuracies commensurate with our point positioning procedures, and these values should be available during, or immediately following, the observing period.

Each of the advances in geodetic technology has contributed greatly to the progress of geodesy in some specific area. With the possible exception in gravimetric geodesy, however, no single advance has had an impact great enough to be considered revolutionary. Because of limitations of mobility, accuracy, speed, cost, reliability, or availability, no new system has completely replaced conventional, competing methods. For example, in spite of certain superior performance characteristics of Doppler and inertial surveying systems, a larger proportion of new, horizontal geodetic control points is still being established by terrestrial direction and distance measurement methods. This is true in part because most geodetic surveys already own theodolites and geodimeters and are reluctant to change, but this is not the main reason.

Revolutionary changes have established, proven methods to radically new methods only come about when the new method is so overwhelmingly superior in enough aspects as to render the old methods obsolete and uneconomical by comparison. None of the satellite-age technologies has reached that stage thus far, but we are on the threshold of just such a revolution with two new technologies: VLBI and GPS. Some of the improvements over current geodetic techniques to be gained by the advent of the VLBI/GPS combination are the following items:

VLBI and GPS: The New Era in Geodesy

Each of the advances in geodetic technology has contributed greatly to the progress of geodesy in some specific area. With the possible exception in gravimetric geodesy, however, no single advance has had an impact great enough to be considered revolutionary. Because of limitations of mobility, accuracy, speed, cost, reliability, or availability, no new system has completely replaced conventional, competing methods. For example, in spite of certain superior performance characteristics of Doppler and inertial surveying systems, a larger proportion of new, horizontal geodetic control points is still being established by terrestrial direction and distance measurement methods. This is true in part because most geodetic surveys already own theodolites and geodimeters and are reluctant to change, but this is not the main reason.

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- Reduced need for labor
- Improved accessibility to users
- Higher benefit/cost ratio
- Automated data flow
- Centimeter-level accuracy
- Temporal resolution adequate for all users
- Quick, economical establishment of stations at even remote locations

VLBI

VLBI employs multiple radio astronomy antennas to simultaneously observe signals from extragalactic radio sources such as quasars. The time-tagged signals received at each antenna are cross-correlated to determine common signal arrival times, which together with the speed of light and known directions of the sources can be used to determine the components of vectors connecting the observing stations. If three widely separated antennas simultaneously observe a sufficient number of sources, then the orientation of the earth with respect to the essentially inertial coordinate system of radio sources can be determined for each observational epoch. Repeated determinations at regular, frequent intervals provide a precise record of the dynamic behavior of the earth as a whole, as well as changes in the relative positions of the antennas on the earth's surface.

The accuracies which can be achieved by VLBI are unprecedented. Polar motion, which until now has been determined to no better than 0.5 to 1.0 m at best, will be determined to 5 to 10 cm in each component. The rotation rate of the earth (UT1-UTC) will be obtained to better than 10⁻⁴ s. And the components and lengths of vectors between stations separated by as much as a few thousand kilometers will be obtained to 1 to 5 cm. What is perhaps most amazing is that these accuracies will be achieved during observing periods of less than 1 day.

Observations can be made day or night in most weather conditions, thereby assuring a high probability of successful, simultaneous observations from all participating stations. Final results have already been completed within 2 weeks after the observing period, and it is expected that this time can be reduced to 1 week or less when procedures have been further refined.

The potential of VLBI has generated interest and enthusiasm throughout the world. In 1978, a Joint Working Group of the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) organized project MERIT (Monitor Earth Rotation and Intercompare the Techniques of observation and analysis) to test the concepts and operational feasibility of VLBI and other modern observational techniques. A short observational campaign was conducted from August through October 1980 to test techniques and refine arrangements for international cooperation. The MERIT Main Campaign will span a full cycle of the 14-

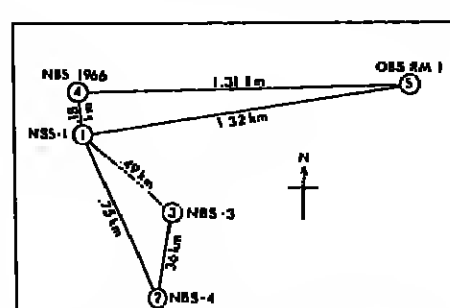


Fig. 1. FGCC test short baseline diagram.

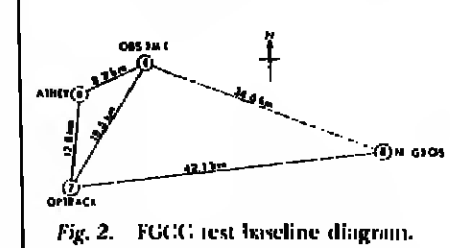


Fig. 2. FGCC test baseline diagram.

month Chandlerian component of polar motion, from September 1983 through October 1984.

In the United States, the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) is engaged in project POLARIS (Polar Motion Analysis by Radio Interferometric Surveying), a project set up to equip and operate three fixed radio observatories dedicated to geodetic applications. The first began operating in Texas in September 1980 and the second in Massachusetts in June 1981. These two have performed one simultaneous 24-hour observing session per week for almost 2 years. A third, in Florida, will begin operating in September 1983.

GPS

GPS is under development by the U.S. Department of Defense as a worldwide, all-weather navigation and timing system. When fully deployed, GPS will allow suitably equipped users to determine instantaneously (to nearly 50 cm) their position and velocity. Furthermore, users with specially equipped receivers and longer observing periods will be able to determine absolute point positions and relative positions with greater accuracy, at lower cost, and in less time than any other method available.

When the GPS system is fully configured in 1989, there will be at least 18 satellites, 3 in each of 6 evenly spaced orbital planes. The satellites will be maintained in near-circular, 12-hour orbits at 20,200 km with 112-hour periods. This configuration is designed so that usually four to seven satellites will be visible from any point on the earth at all times. Orbit geometry will be monitored and maintained by the Control Segment of the GPS program through high-precision tracking and orbit determination and orbit-keeping activities. Definitive ephemerides along with ultraprecise timing will be frequently inserted into the GPS satellites for subsequent and continuous transmission to the user community.

To date, seven satellites have been launched and five are still in operation. A minimum of five useful satellites will be maintained until the full constellation is deployed. These five are configured so that three to five are in view, in selected locations, a few hours each day—a configuration considered adequate for purposes of development and system testing.

Just as with the TRANSIT satellite Doppler positioning system, GPS satellites will permit either absolute point positioning of ground stations relative to the known satellite positions, or relative positioning of two or more ground stations which observe common satellites simultaneously. Because of a number of improvements, however, GPS will produce position accuracies as much as an order of magnitude better than is possible with the TRANSIT satellites. GPS satellites are, in higher, more stable orbits and can be tracked more accurately than TRANSIT satellites. GPS also uses higher frequency signals and much more accurate clocks. And the 18-satellite array will permit uninterrupted observing of satellites for as long as necessary.

Article (cont. on p. 570)

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Article (cont. from p. 569)

Accurate point positioning will require having access to the special signal modulation and the precise satellite ephemerides, information which might be available only to authorized users. Relative positioning, using radio interferometric methods similar to those used in VLBI, however, is independent of the special code. The coded signals are treated as random noise, much like the signals from quasars, to obtain instantaneous vectors.

Several types of geodetic GPS receivers are in various stages of manufacturing and testing. The first receiver to become commercially available is the MACROMETER Model V-1000 Interferometric Satellite Surveyor, manufactured by Macrometrics, Inc., of Woburn, Mass. The receiver tracks only one of the two transmitted frequencies and is thus limited over longer baselines due to ionospheric effects. The company plans to produce a two-frequency receiver in the future.

An independent test of the MACROMETER V-1000 was conducted over an 8-day period in January 1983 by the Instrument Subcommittee of the U.S. Federal Geodetic Control Committee (FGCC). The tests were conducted on the FGCC test network in the vicinity of Washington, D. C., between stations positioned by first-order terrestrial methods [Hothem and Frouček, 1983]. Three receivers were used to measure two sets of baselines. The first set, shown in Figure 1, consisted of two triangles with sides varying in length from 0.18 to 1.32 km. The second, shown in Figure 2, had side lengths varying from 8.7 to 42.1 km. Results of baseline comparisons are shown in Tables 1 and 2, respectively. In Table 2, all MACROMETER-interferometric baselines were lengthened by 1-492,000 to compensate for an apparent systematic scale difference between terrestrial and GPS results. Observations on the short-line network were obtained during 2-hour observing periods. The longer-line observations were over 3-hour periods.

The results of this test demonstrate the revolutionary capability of the GPS system. As shown in the tables, all of the shorter baselines agreed with the terrestrial values to better than one part per 50,000. The longer baselines agreed, after scaling, to better than one part per million (ppm). Prior to scaling, the baseline differences ranged from +1.8 to +11.3 cm, and the proportional differences ranged from 1:367,000 to 1:577,000. Both the shorter and longer line results compare favorably with the manufacturer's estimates of ± 15 mm + 5 ppm.

TABLE 1. FGCC Test Short Baseline Comparisons

Observing Dates	Stations	Lengths, km	Length Differences, (Terrestrial Minus GPS)	
			cm	ppm
1/14/83	1 2	0.75	0.0	
1/17/83	4 1	0.18	-0.1	51,000
1/17/83	1 5	1.32	1.1	125,000
1/17/83	3 4	1.31	1.7	75,000
1/18/83	1 2	0.73	0.4	1:195,000
1/18/83	2 3	0.96	0.6	1:62,000
1/18/83	3 1	0.49	0.0	

TABLE 2. FGCC Test Baseline Comparisons

Observing Dates	Stations	Lengths, km	Length Differences, (Terrestrial Minus GPS)	
			cm	ppm
1/19/83	7 8	12.8	-0.8	-0.6
1/19/83	7 5	18.5	-0.1	-0.1
1/19/83	5 6	8.7	0.6	0.7
1/20/83	7 8	42.1	2.1	0.5
1/20/83	7 5	18.5	0.0	0.0
1/20/83	5 8	34.6	-1.7	-0.5
1/21/83	7 8	42.1	2.7	0.6
1/21/83	7 5	18.5	-0.4	-0.2
1/21/83	5 8	34.6	1.0	0.3

*MACROMETER baselines scaled by $\pm 1:492,000$.

Future Impact of VLBI and GPS

After slightly more than 14 years of development and refinement, geodetic VLBI has reached a point where there is now general consensus that VLBI will prove to be a very powerful and cost-effective method of obtaining measurements which are vital to several aspects of geodesy and geophysics. There are a number of technical problems remaining which have not been completely resolved, and improvements will be made in operating and data reduction procedures to shorten the time between observations and dissemination

of results, but these are little more than minor annoyances which are common during the shakedown period of any new technology. The major problems have been solved, tests have proven the methods, and observations are routinely producing results.

When fully operational, a network of as few as 3 VLBI observatories will replace the 50 optical observatories which now monitor the earth's rotation. The International Latitude Service, which monitored polar motion from five optical observatories has ceased operations and is in the process of being supplanted by VLBI. For the first time, a single system, capable of all-weather operations, will monitor both polar motion and rotation rate. Results will be an order of magnitude better than at present and will be available in a week or less instead of 6 months. The positional stability of extragalactic radio sources and the extremely high precision of interferometric measuring techniques are combined in VLBI to provide an inertial reference system which will meet the most stringent accuracy requirements of today and for the foreseeable future.

In addition to providing an absolute external reference framework, VLBI will also provide the ability to monitor continental and worldwide network deformations caused by crustal motions. Portable VLBI antennas in conjunction with fixed base antennas can periodically redetermine the relative positions of widely separated network control points to subdecimeter accuracies. The NGS, in cooperation with other U.S. agencies, is establishing a 50-station National Crustal Motion Network for this purpose. This network will be a level higher than the primary, or first-order, networks of today because of its superior accuracy and the addition of a fourth dimension—time.

Looking beyond the MERIT campaign, the NGS and a consortium of geodetic agencies in the Federal Republic of Germany plan to continue to work together closely. In 1983 the organizations signed a cooperative agreement which will remain in effect as long as it is deemed beneficial to the participants. This agreement established project IRIS (International Radio Interferometric Surveying) which is intended to serve as a foundation for multinational geodetic VLBI programs. Application has been made to the IUGG and the Committee on Space Research to establish IRIS as a subcommittee of the International Association of Geodesy's Commission VIII. There is a growing awareness of the power of VLBI, and the geodetic community is working quickly to apply that power to the solution of problems posed by the modern earth sciences. Several nations have already begun to develop programs and facilities that should lead to a global network of geodetic VLBI observations by the close of this decade.

Simulations and operational tests have provided evidence in support of predictions of the accuracy and efficiency of GPS. As with VLBI, problems remain, but they do not appear to be insurmountable. By the time the full 18-satellite configuration is deployed in the late 1980's, geodetic receivers and operating procedures will have been further refined. Relative accuracies of a few centimeters over baselines up to 100 km, in about an hour of observations, will be routine. The cost of equipment, which is currently in the neighborhood of \$250,000 for a pair of very-high-frequency interferometric receivers and supporting hardware, should be considerably lower. Equipment will be automatic, operators will need minimal training, field crews will consist of hardly more than one person per receiver, and the production of network control point positions will be increased as much as twenty times per person compared to terrestrial surveying methods.

There is little doubt that GPS will replace terrestrial methods for most main-scheme horizontal control network surveying, but the ability to span distances of 100 km or more on each line will probably mean that new networks in previously unsurveyed areas will initially have far fewer stations, and these will be at points more easily accessible than the hilltops so common in terrestrially established networks.

Network densification will also be accomplished by GPS, but it may be done only as the need arises for specific purposes, rather than as blanket coverage for all future needs. The speed and economy of GPS geodetic positioning, and the cost and susceptibility to disturbance of permanent geodetic markers, may result in the use of temporary markers which can be removed and reused after they have served their purpose.

With a little imagination, many more applications could be listed for a tool as powerful

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as GPS. And if the prices of the equipment drop drastically, as expected, this will be an incentive for even more applications.

The combination of VLBI and GPS gives us the ability, if we so desire, to finally join the control point networks of the world into a homogeneous world system. Further, it no longer is necessary to treat the networks as static systems for lack of the ability to detect and keep track of crustal movements. The speed, accuracy, and economy of these technologies, and their ability to span long distances without recourse to intermediate points, will enable us to restructure worldwide networks of monitoring points at short intervals of time.

The changes to be wrought by the VLBI-GPS system are far more than just replacing one technology with a newer one to perform the same functions. Replacing the old baselines from these new tools will require that we reevaluate and perhaps redefine our own thresholds. In the future, the tests of individual scientists for research in these areas will no longer apply in the same sense. They are a reflection of the abilities and limitations of classical geodetic surveying technology. The new technologies extend our horizons and give new meanings to such concepts as national, regional, and local control. Table 3 illustrates how these terms could be redefined within the United States by the implementation of the POLARIS and National Crustal Motion Network projects. Similar redefinitions will apply to continental and global networks as well.

No one can today foresee all of the effects which these new technologies will have on geodesy, but we can be reasonably sure of several things. Whether we are ready for them or not, changes will occur in rather rapid succession over the next decade. They will affect not only how we position control points, but also our organizational structures and the education, training, and roles of geodesists in the future. The new capabilities will attract new clients and spawn requirements for services which we cannot envision today. In spite of our natural tendencies to resist change, changes will occur. The geodetic revolution has started.

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TABLE 3. Redefinition of Geodetic Functions in the United States

Function	Current Techniques	VLBI/GPS Techniques
Fundamental reference system	50 polar motion observatories scattered worldwide	3 POLARIS observatories within the United States
Unified national geodetic control	First-order geodetic network (about 40,000 stations)	Crustal motion network (about 50 stations)
Regional geodetic and local control	5,000 astronomical stations	Combined total of current and VLBI/GPS networks (about 220,000 stations)
Local geodetic control	Second-order geodetic network (about 80,000 stations)	Third-order geodetic network (about 100,000 stations)

News

Mantle Viscosity

A central factor in models of the earth's interior is the viscosity of the mantle. If regions of the mantle are highly viscous, then solid convection cells may not exist. Conversely, upper and lower mantle viscosity within certain limits could support convection cells ranging from mantle-wide to layered dimensions.

It may not, of course, be possible yet to obtain unique viscosity models for all parts of the mantle because critical boundary values remain undefined or are too uncertain. Nonetheless, the viscosity of the mantle is a basic starting point for many global geophysical models, and the more that can be known about its distribution the more valid the models.

New analyses of LAGEOS (Laser Earth

EOS

Transactions, American Geophysical Union
The Weekly Newspaper of Geophysics

For speedier treatment of contributions send three copies of the double-spaced manuscript to one of the editors named below and one copy to AGU.

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Subscription price to members is included in annual dues (\$20.00 per year). Information on institutional subscriptions is available on request. Second-class postage paid at Washington, D. C., and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: American Geophysical Union (ISSN 0893-3941) is published weekly by

American Geophysical Union
2000 Florida Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20009

Cover. These two images show the mesoscale sea surface elevation in the South Pacific near Fiji (5°S to 4°S and 158°E to 160°E). These elevations are residuals from about 100 passes of Seasat altimeter data fitted to the NASA Goddard GEM-10B geoid model. The elevations in the top image have been artificially illuminated by a computer simulated sun in the southwest, while those of the bottom image are illuminated from the northwest. The features shown range in elevation from 15 m in the northeast-southwest trending Tonga-Kermadec trench, to a few centimeters for the broad features like the Three-Kings rise (A). This display technique brings out subtle, sea-surface features which cannot be seen in contour maps of these data. In particular note the sea-surface expression of such bottom features as the Louisville ridge (B), the South Hebrides trench (C), and the Vityaz trench (D). Varying the azimuth of illumination is useful for emphasizing certain features. For example, note the change in appearance of the Manihiki plateau (E, F) between the two images. Several features require further study, particularly the feature zone (Z) at (B). Parallel linear features trending NE-SW and NW-SE are artifacts of the regriding process and the irregular spacing between parallel passes of data. Regridding results in considerable smoothing of the regions between passes and the lineations are due to differences in sea-surface elevation of a few centimeters between passes separated by 10 km or less. (Photo courtesy of Richard D. Brown, Phoenix Corp., 1700 Old Meadow Rd., McLean, VA 22102.)

satellite) data have provided a means of indirect observation of the earth's topographic surface. W. R. Pelletier recently reported analysis of one of the zonal harmonic components, J_2 , of the earth's gravitational potential field that was measured over a 5.3-year period by LAGEOS. His conclusion was that the viscosity of the lower mantle is probably quite close to that of the upper mantle, within a factor of 3 or 4. Among the major implications of this conclusion is that mantle convection processes are feasible (Nature, 304, 494-495, 1983).

The basic observation was a residual acceleration in the node of the LAGEOS orbit. The interpretation is that this acceleration is, for the most part, due to a secular increase in J_2 . This J_2 is implied to be $-3.5 \pm 0.3 \times 10^{-11} \text{ yr}^{-1}$, evidently due to viscous flow in the mantle in response to deglaciation. The relationship between the observation and the implied viscosity of the deep mantle is approximately as follows.

If the earth were an idealized ellipsoid of revolution and thus if the earth's mantle had no finite strength (time-dependent or otherwise), the satellite would travel along an equatorial plane, the geoid. The satellite travel in time would map out a representative, idealized figure of the earth. Deviations from an idealized figure are assumed to be supported by finite strength and rigidity of the mantle.

Two important variables, among others, that affect the results are the variation of strength with depth and with time. It is possible to calculate a strength-depth profile and it is also possible, after sufficient revolutions as in the case of the current LAGEOS data, to recalculate the profile with time. The time profile is sensitive to the accuracy of satellite tracking measurements as well as to changes in the earth's rate of rotation caused by tidal dissipation in the oceans. Pelletier used the most accurate tracking data and the time measurements for UT1 (Universal Time) obtained from the Lunar Laser Ranging observations. The nonlunar component residual is presumably due to Pleistocene deglaciation effects.

There are many possible routes for these calculations involving models and assumptions about the surface distributions of mass. In the instance of glacial ice caps, the models involve factors of isostatic adjustment and related contributions to the earth's axial moments of inertia. Pelletier invoked various geophysical observations to reduce the calculated satellite data. The result is a constraint on the lower mantle viscosity that is as follows:

$$2.7 \times 10^{22} \text{ Pa} \leq \eta_{\text{LM}} \text{ (LAGEOS)} \leq 4.4 \times 10^{22} \text{ Pa}$$

This value is close to that of the upper mantle.—PAIB

Southern Ocean Bathymetry

The southern oceans of the world have not been well surveyed generally, in contrast with the oceans of the northern hemisphere. Data from the relatively new Seasat, which is a radar altimeter flown on a satellite platform, has recently provided bathymetric estimates for the southern oceans (Nature, 304, 407, 1983). The Seasat data provides a planning data base for future ship surveys to obtain precisely and accurately charted sea-floor topography.

The analysis of a 70-day data set originally collected over the 100-day period from July 5 to October 10, 1978, has revealed a number of distinct bathymetric features that had not been observed before. For example, the new data showed a major rise, or geoid high, that extends east of the Louisville Ridge between latitudes 38° and 41°S, and longitudes 160° and 150°W. The Louisville Ridge itself was found to be a nearly continuous feature composed of short ridge segments. A volcanic rather than a fracture zone origin is suggested by this topography.

Among the other findings are a well defined "hook" along the southeast parts of the Eltanin and Udintsev fracture zone systems, a larger and different shape of the Conrad Rise in the south Indian Ocean, and several smaller rises or plateaus and a large seamount located north-northwest of the Marion Dufrenoy seamount, also in the Indian Ocean.

The Seasat altimeter measures the distance between the spacecraft and the ocean surface as deduced from the reflected radar pulses. The radar pulses sample a finite region of the ocean surface, the so-called "footprint," that results from the temporal pulse width of 3.1 m. The footprint thus defined has a diameter between 2 and 12 km, depending on the state of the ocean surface. The ocean surface character in terms of wave height and wave speed can also be extracted in the measurement.

The analysis includes determination of the radar pulse shape and other properties of the signal. The interaction with the ocean sur-

face, as the pulse is reflected, requires modeling to obtain the travel time to a high degree of accuracy. Among the factors affecting the actual travel times of the pulses are satellite position, atmospheric time delay, geoid height, tides and currents, and variations in atmospheric pressure. The ocean surface height of reference is by definition the sum of all uncorrected, time-invariant contributions to the measurement.

The relationship between the ocean surface and the bottom topography is mostly understood. The greatest effect on the shape of the marine geoid is the bottom topography because of the density contrast between sea water and bottom rock and sediment at close proximity.

As described by T. H. Dixon and M. E. Parke of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, "The major influence on the ocean surface elevation is the marine geoid. On basin scales (greater than 5000 km) the earth's reference ellipsoid can be as much as 200 m." Variations in ocean current topography are relatively negligible, except for warm-core and cold-core rings such as those that spin off the Gulf Stream and other major western boundary currents.

Dixon and Parke note that the strongest correlation between the geoid and the ocean floor result from features having wavelengths from 30 to 500 km. As they stated, "Where age constraints for topographic features and underlying crust are available, high-quality altimeter data can be used to predict sea-floor topography to better than 500 m along individual altimeter ground tracks."

The Seasat observations were limited in the period of observations and were high-pass filtered to remove long wavelength trends in the altimeter data, due in part to errors in tracking the satellite's position. The geoid anomaly map which resulted from the analysis carries the assumption that no density anomalies having topographic expression exist. Further, spatially variable compensation mechanisms could be operative to correct existing bathymetric anomalies. Thus the greatest value of the study was in pinpointing areas for selection in future ship surveys.—PAIB

Landsat D' Primed

Problems with Landsat 4, the United States' current operational land remote-sensing satellite, have prompted the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to move up the launch date of the second spacecraft in the advanced land remote-sensing satellite series, Landsat D, to early 1984, instead of July 1985 as originally scheduled. Four land remote-sensing satellites were proposed for the original series: Landsat D (known as Landsat 4 now that it is in orbit) is the first, Landsat D' is the second, two more were to follow. However, with the Reagan Administration's eye on commercializing the land and weather remote-sensing satellites (EOS, May 17, 1983, p. 377, and March 29, 1983, p. 115), the budgets for the last two Landsat satellites were never approved.

The earlier launch of Landsat D' will help assess the vital spring crop; this information is necessary to establish U.S. farm production policy for 1984 and to assess the economic impact of the potential crop yield. Landsat 4, launched July 16, 1982, has suffered serious system failures, including the ability to receive data directly from the thematic mapper instrument. The system is now operating at approximately one-half power and further deterioration in power output is expected. NOAA says complete failure is possible at any time.

News (cont. on p. 572)

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DIRECTOR WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Applications are invited for the position of Director of the Arizona Water Resources Research Center. The Center, located at the University of Arizona, is an interdisciplinary organization formed in response to the 1964 U.S. Water Resources Act and is devoted to assisting water-related research activities at the three state universities and to the dissemination of results of water-related research in the State. It also conducts research investigations within its organization, with special emphasis on the urban, industrial and agricultural water use issues of arid and semi-arid regions. Candidates should possess an earned Ph.D., preferably in engineering or a natural science, an established research and administrative record, and familiarity with the role and operations of a state water resources research center. Please send an application, curriculum vitae, and the names of three references to:

Dean, College of Engineering
Bldg. 72
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721

Closing date is December 1, 1983. UA is an equal opportunity employer.

Iowa State University of Science and Technology, Department of Earth Sciences. Applications are invited for a tenure track, faculty position in Meteorology. Rank is at the assistant to associate professor level, dependent upon qualifications. The successful applicant will be expected to develop a strong research and graduate student program and will teach undergraduate and graduate courses for meteorology majors.

The position is for a person with proven expertise within the general area of dynamic meteorology. Teaching will involve an undergraduate course in synoptic meteorology, in addition to courses related to the field of expertise. Completion of the Ph.D. prior to appointment is strongly preferred. In addition, research ability shown by other publications and/or postdoctoral experience will be an advantage.

Iowa State offers degrees in meteorology through the Ph.D. The program includes about 60 undergraduate majors; the graduate research program is strong and emphasizes theoretical, dynamical, and applied meteorology. Close relationships are maintained with the facilities

and personnel of major national laboratories. New campus facilities for meteorology are currently under construction.

The appointment is expected to begin in late September, 1984; an applicant should start the current academic year may be possible. Application deadline is November 1, 1983; later applications will be accepted if the position is not filled. For application information please write to:

Dr. Ben E. Nordlie
Department of Earth Sciences
Iowa State University
535 Science I
Ames, Iowa 50011

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Meteorologist/The City College of the City University of New York. The Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences invites applications for an anticipated opening in meteorology. The appointment will start September, 1984. Applicants should

have completed the Ph.D. by the time of appointment and have a strong background in synoptic meteorology and computer applications. In addition, the individual should have an interest in atmospheric chemistry as pollution is applied to urban, rural, or physical oceanography. The person hired will be required to teach courses in meteorology, and possibly physical oceanography as well as develop and maintain an active research program. Participation in the C.U.N.Y. Ph.D. Program in Earth and Environmental Sciences is anticipated. Rank and salary will be commensurate with experience. Send resume, transcripts and three letters of reference to: November 30, 1983 to Professor Louis Weiss, Chairman, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, The City College, 138 Street and 140th Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10031.

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Geochemistry/University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Department of Geology invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position in geochemistry. We are seeking candidates who have clearly demonstrated the potential to be outstanding researchers in the general area of low-temperature geochemistry and whose research efforts will complement our existing programs in the petrology and diagenesis of sediments, stable isotope studies, and fluid-rock interactions. In addition to the development of a strong research program, the successful candidate is expected to participate in all aspects of teaching and advising at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

The Department of Geology houses a variety of facilities for geochemical research including an atomic absorption spectrophotometer, X-ray fluorescence and fluorescence units, an isotope-ratio mass spectrometer, and two electron microprobes. Numerous other analytical facilities are available on campus.

This position is available immediately. We expect to make the appointment at the Assistant Professor level. Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. For formal consideration, please submit a letter of application which includes a statement of current and future research interests as well as curriculum vitae, bibliography, and the names of three references willing to comment on your qualifications and promise of future success. Application deadline is November 1, 1983. The University of Illinois is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

University of Minnesota Stratigraphic Sedimentology Petrologist. Tenure-track position starting in 1984, available at the Assistant Professor level. The candidate must have a Ph.D. with interest in the study of sedimentary basins, tectonics and sedimentary petrology, and will be expected to carry on research and to teach graduate and undergraduate courses in these fields. The position is located in the Department of Geology, 245 Natural History Building, 1301 W. Green St., Urbana, IL 61801. [217]555-0555 by November 30, 1983. The University of Illinois is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

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Earth Sciences

The Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory of Columbia University invites scientists interested in any field of the earth sciences to apply for the following fellowships: Two postdoctoral fellowships, each awarded for a period of one year (extendable to two years in special instances) beginning in September, 1984 with a stipend of \$25,000 per annum.

Completed applications are to be returned by January 15, 1984. Application forms may be obtained by writing to the Director, Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory, Palisades, New York 10964. Award announcements will be made February 28, 1984, or shortly thereafter.

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are desirable. The position is available in June 1984 for 3-month academic year. Appointment is at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor. Salary and academic rank will be dependent on experience and qualifications.

Applications and resumes, addresses and telephone numbers of at least three references should be submitted to Dr. Charles Stenstrom, Department of Earth Sciences, P.O. Box 545, St. Louis, MO 63103.

Applications received by October 15, 1983 will given preference.

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1983; University of Michigan (M.S. Meteorology) 1988; University of Michigan (Ph.D. Meteorology) 1970.

Systems Analyst, U.S. Air Force, 1963-72; Director ASC Applications/Marketing, Texas Instruments 1972-75; Director U.S. First GARP Global Experiment Project Office 1975-81; Director, Special Research Programs Office; present position, 1983-; International U.S. representative to WMO FGGE Panel, Led first U.S. Ocean Climate Delegation to the People's Republic of China.

NOAA representative to National Academy of Sciences U.S. Corp Committee 1978-; and Climate Research Committee 1980-; American Meteorological Society: Served as Chairman of Committee on Probability and Statistics, 1975-77; Member of AAAS, AGU, American Society of Photogrammetry, and the Oceanic Society.

Published several scientific papers in several professional journals. Awards: Air Force Commendation Medal (1967) for outstanding achievement in numeric analysis; The Department of Commerce Gold Medal Award (1980) for outstanding achievement in directing U.S. role in the Global Weather Experiment. Fellow AAAS.

Desiring a new challenge, a member of AGU since 1978, 46 years old.

Since 1980, Head of Ocean and Ice Branch, Goddard Laboratory for Atmospheric Sciences, NASA, and also Adjunct Professor, Department of Meteorology, University of Maryland. Theoretical studies on the free oscillations, free and forced waves, stability of flows, lakes, oceans, and atmosphere. M.Sc. in Meteorology and Oceanography from India in 1958; M.S. (1959) and Ph.D. (1965) in Geophysical Sciences from University of Chicago. Postdoctoral Fellow at NCAR during 1965-67. Then Assistant Professor of Atmospheric Sciences at Colorado State University during 1967-71; subsequently Associate and Full Professor of Geophysical Fluid Dynamics at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee during 1971-73. Following this, Head of Physical Meteorology and Meteorology Group, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, NOAA, during 1973-80. Member of AMS, Sigma Xi, and charter member of International Water Resources Association. Vice-President, Denver Chapter of AMS (1980-81). Member of AMS Committee on Atmospheric and Oceanic Waves and Stability. 33 publications in journals (4 in AGU journals) and over 30 refereed reports. Fellow of AMS; biographical listing in Who's Who in America, among others.

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